(b) whether there has been any increase or decrease in the production of these vehicles as compared to the years 1983-84 and 1984-85?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The production of two-wheelers, three-wheelers and Jeep type vehicles in the country between 1983-84 and 1986-87 has been as under:—

(Nos 000)

Statement

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Two wheelers	780	898	1191	1384
Three wheelers	39	44	50	54
Jeep type vehicles	22	23	28	30

Disease due to dust among the coal miners

2958. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pneumoconiosis, a disease which is rampant among the coal mines and is caused by dust hazards in coal mines, is increasing alarmingly among the mines working in BCCL and other coal companies;

(b) whether Government would consider to undertake a quantitative survey of serious air pollution in Dhanbad due to the Open Cast Mining of Coal and Stack burning of coal by Bharat Coking Coal Limited jointly by the premier institutes like National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur and Central Fuel Research Institute, Dhanbad; and

(c) what steps Government intend to take for the protection of miners from this disease?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There is no evidence to suggest that Pneumoconiosis is increasing amongst miners working in BCCL and other coal companies.

(b) detailed environmental study is proposed to be conducted of Jharia and other coalfields of the nature as suggested with the help of appropriate expert agencies.

(c) Pneumoconiosis is caused by inhalation of fine dust particles. The coal companies are taking elaborate dust suppression measures and trying to generally improve the envoinment in their Open Cast and Underground mines. Better diagnostic facilities in companies' hospitals and periodic medical examination of workers, specially underground workers is arranged for early detection of this disease. Pneumoconiosis Boards have been set up in all the subsidiaries to determine the degree of disability suffered by workers hit by this disease.

Appointment of Directors in Peerless Company

2959. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Questions 841 and 1571 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th and 23rd November, 1987, respectively and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Peerless Company has contested in the Court of Law the decision of the Central Government to nominate four Directors to the Board of Management of the Company;